



California State Board of Pharmacy  
 2720 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 100  
 Sacramento, CA 95833  
 Phone: (916) 518-3100 Fax: (916) 574-8614  
 www.pharmacy.ca.gov

Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency  
 Department of Consumer Affairs  
 Gavin Newsom, Governor



**APPLICATION FOR VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF PHARMACY TECHNICIAN LICENSE**

**PLEASE PRINT IN BLACK OR BLUE INK OR TYPE YOUR RESPONSES:**

Name of Licensee: <u>165087 Renee Vek</u>	Case No. <u>AC 20237781</u>
Address of Record: <u>16134 Wedgeworth Dr.</u> <u>Hacienda CA 91745</u>	

Pursuant to the terms and conditions of my probation with the California State Board of Pharmacy (Board) in Case No. AC 20237781, I hereby request to surrender my pharmacy technician license, License No. 165087. The Board or its designee shall have the discretion whether to grant the request for surrender or take any other action it deems appropriate and reasonable. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender of the license, I will no longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation. I understand that this surrender constitutes a record of discipline and shall become a part of my license history with the Board.

Upon the acceptance of the surrender, I shall relinquish my pharmacy technician license to the Board within ten (10) days of notification by the Board that the surrender is accepted. I understand that I may not reapply for any license, permit, or registration from the board for three (3) years from the effective date of the surrender. I further understand that I shall meet all requirements applicable to the license sought as of the date the application for that license is submitted to the Board, including any outstanding costs.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT YOU ARE NOT RELIEVED OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF YOUR PROBATION UNLESS THE BOARD NOTIFIES YOU THAT YOUR REQUEST TO SURRENDER YOUR LICENSE HAS BEEN ACCEPTED.

*Renee M. Vela*

Applicant's Signature

*June 18, 2025*

Date

*Renee M. Vela*

Applicant's Printed Name

*165 087*

Applicant's License Number

Executive Officer's Approval

Date

All items on this application are mandatory in accordance with your probationary order and the Board's Disciplinary Guidelines as authorized by Title 16, California Code of Regulations section 1760. Failure to provide any of the requested information or providing unreadable information will result in the application being rejected as incomplete. The information provided on this form will be used to determine eligibility for surrender. The official responsible for information maintenance is the Executive Officer, telephone (916) 518-3100, 2720 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95833. The information you provide may also be disclosed in the following circumstances: (1) in response to a Public Records Act request; (2) to another government agency as required by state or federal law; or, (3) in response to a court or administrative order, a subpoena, or a search warrant. Each individual has the right to review the files or records maintained on them by our agency, unless the records are identified as confidential information and exempted by Section 1798.40 of the Civil Code.

**BEFORE THE  
BOARD OF PHARMACY  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**In the Matter of the Accusation Against:**

**RENEE MARY VELA**

**Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH 165087**

**Respondent.**

**Agency Case No. 7781**

**DECISION AND ORDER**

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on June 4, 2025.

It is so ORDERED on May 5, 2025.

BOARD OF PHARMACY  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

By



Seung W. Oh, Pharm.D.  
Board President

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7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

8 **BEFORE THE**  
9 **BOARD OF PHARMACY**

10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

13 **RENEE MARY VELA**  
14 **16134 Wedgeworth Dr.**  
**Hacienda Heights, CA 91745**  
15 **Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH**  
**165087**

16 Respondent.

Case No. 7781

OAH No.

**STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND**  
**DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

17  
18  
19 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-  
20 entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

21 **PARTIES**

22 1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy  
23 (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by  
24 Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Christina Thomas, Deputy Attorney  
25 General.

26 2. Respondent Renee Mary Vela (Respondent) is representing herself in this proceeding  
27 and has chosen not to exercise her right to be represented by counsel.  
28





1 STANDARD CONDITIONS OF PROBATIONS

2 1. **Obey All Laws**

3 Respondent shall obey all state and federal laws and regulations.

4 Respondent shall report any of the following occurrences to the board, in writing, within  
5 seventy- two (72) hours of such occurrence:

- 6 • an arrest or issuance of a criminal complaint for violation of any provision of the  
7 Pharmacy Law, state and federal food and drug laws, or state and federal controlled  
8 substances laws
- 9 • a plea of guilty, or nolo contendere, no contest, or similar, in any state or federal  
10 criminal proceeding to any criminal complaint, information or indictment
- 11 • a conviction of any crime
- 12 • the filing of a disciplinary pleading, issuance of a citation, or initiation of another  
13 administrative action filed by any state or federal agency which involves  
14 respondent’s license or which is related to the practice of pharmacy or the  
15 manufacturing, obtaining, handling, distributing, billing, or charging for any drug,  
16 device or controlled substance.

17 Failure to timely report such occurrence shall be considered a violation of probation.

18 2. **Report to the Board**

19 Respondent shall report to the board quarterly, on a schedule as directed by the board or its  
20 designee. The report shall be made either in person or in writing, as directed. Among other  
21 requirements, respondent shall state in each report under penalty of perjury whether there has  
22 been compliance with all the terms and conditions of probation.

23 Failure to submit timely reports in a form as directed shall be considered a violation of  
24 probation. Any period(s) of delinquency in submission of reports as directed may be added to the  
25 total period of probation. Moreover, if the final probation report is not made as directed,  
26 probation shall be automatically extended until such time as the final report is made and accepted  
27 by the board.

28 3. **Interview with the Board**

1           Upon receipt of reasonable prior notice, respondent shall appear in person for interviews  
2 with the board or its designee, at such intervals and locations as are determined by the board or its  
3 designee. Failure to appear for any scheduled interview without prior notification to board staff,  
4 or failure to appear for two (2) or more scheduled interviews with the board or its designee during  
5 the period of probation, shall be considered a violation of probation.

6           **4. Cooperate with Board Staff**

7           Respondent shall timely cooperate with the board's inspection program and with the board's  
8 monitoring and investigation of respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of her  
9 probation, including but not limited to: timely responses to requests for information by board  
10 staff; timely compliance with directives from board staff regarding requirements of any term or  
11 condition of probation; and timely completion of documentation pertaining to a term or condition  
12 of probation. Failure to timely cooperate shall be considered a violation of probation.

13           **5. Reporting of Employment and Notice to Employers**

14           During the period of probation, respondent shall notify all present and prospective  
15 employers of the decision in case number 7781 and the terms, conditions and restrictions imposed  
16 on respondent by the decision, as follows:

17           Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within ten (10) days of  
18 undertaking any new employment, respondent shall report to the board in writing the name,  
19 physical address, and mailing address of each of her employer(s), and the name(s) and telephone  
20 number(s) of all of her direct supervisor(s), as well as any pharmacist(s)-in-charge, designated  
21 representative(s)-in-charge, responsible manager, or other compliance supervisor(s) and the work  
22 schedule, if known. Respondent shall also include the reason(s) for leaving the prior  
23 employment. Respondent shall sign and return to the board a written consent authorizing the  
24 board or its designee to communicate with all of respondent's employer(s) and supervisor(s) and  
25 authorizing those employer(s) or supervisor(s) to communicate with the board or its designee,  
26 concerning respondent's work status, performance, and monitoring. Failure to comply with the  
27 requirements or deadlines of this condition shall be considered a violation of probation.

28           Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within fifteen (15) days of  
respondent undertaking any new employment, respondent shall cause (a) her direct supervisor, (b)

1 her pharmacist-in-charge, designated representative-in-charge, responsible manager, or other  
2 compliance supervisor, and (c) the owner or owner representative of her employer, to report to the  
3 board in writing acknowledging that the listed individual(s) has/have read the decision in case  
4 number 7781, and terms and conditions imposed thereby. If one person serves in more than one  
5 role described in (a), (b), or (c), the acknowledgment shall so state. It shall be the respondent's  
6 responsibility to ensure that these acknowledgment(s) are timely submitted to the board. In the  
7 event of a change in the person(s) serving the role(s) described in (a), (b), or (c) during the term  
8 of probation, respondent shall cause the person(s) taking over the role(s) to report to the board in  
9 writing within fifteen (15) days of the change acknowledging that he or she has read the decision  
10 in case number 7781, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby.

11 If respondent works for or is employed by or through an employment service, respondent  
12 must notify the person(s) described in (a), (b), and (c) above at every entity licensed by the board  
13 of the decision in case number 7781, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby in advance of  
14 respondent commencing work at such licensed entity. A record of this notification must be  
15 provided to the board upon request.

16 Furthermore, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within fifteen  
17 (15) days of respondent undertaking any new employment by or through an employment service,  
18 respondent shall cause the person(s) described in (a), (b), and (c) above at the employment service  
19 to report to the board in writing acknowledging that he or she has read the decision in case  
20 number, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby. It shall be respondent's responsibility to  
21 ensure that these acknowledgment(s) are timely submitted to the board.

22 Failure to timely notify present or prospective employer(s) or failure to cause the identified  
23 person(s) with that/those employer(s) to submit timely written acknowledgments to the board  
24 shall be considered a violation of probation.

25 "Employment" within the meaning of this provision includes any full-time, part-time,  
26 temporary, relief, or employment/management service position as a Pharmacy Technician, or any  
27 position for which a Pharmacy Technician is a requirement or criterion for employment, whether  
28 the respondent is an employee, independent contractor or volunteer.

1                   **6. Notification of Change(s) in Name, Address(es), or Phone Number(s)**

2                   Respondent shall further notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of any change in  
3 name, residence address, mailing address, e-mail address or phone number.

4                   Failure to timely notify the board of any change in employer, name, address, or phone  
5 number shall be considered a violation of probation.

6                   designee. Any such approval shall be site specific. The consultant shall be a pharmacist  
7 licensed by and not on probation with the board, who has been approved by the board or its  
8 designee to serve in this position. Respondent shall submit the name of the proposed consultant to  
9 the board or its designee for approval within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the decision  
10 or prior to assumption of duties allowed in this term. Assumption of any unauthorized  
11 supervision responsibilities shall be considered a violation of probation. In addition, failure to  
12 timely seek approval for, timely retain, or ensure timely reporting by the consultant shall be  
13 considered a violation of probation.

14                   **7. Reimbursement of Board Costs**

15                   As a condition precedent to successful completion of probation, respondent shall pay to the  
16 board its costs of investigation and prosecution in the amount of \$ 4233.50.

17                   Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the board  
18 or its designee, so long as full payment is completed no later than one (1) year prior to the end  
19 date of probation. Failure to pay costs by the deadline(s) as directed shall be considered a  
20 violation of probation.

21                   **8. Probation Monitoring Costs**

22                   Respondent shall pay any costs associated with probation monitoring as determined by the  
23 board each and every year of probation. Such costs shall be payable to the board on a schedule as  
24 directed by the board or its designee. Failure to pay such costs by the deadline(s) as directed shall  
25 be considered a violation of probation.

26                   **9. Status of License**

27                   Respondent shall, at all times while on probation, maintain an active, current Pharmacy  
28 Technician License with the board, including any period during which suspension or probation is  
tollled. Failure to maintain an active, current Pharmacy Technician License shall be considered a  
violation of probation.

1 If respondent's Pharmacy Technician License expires or is cancelled by operation of law or  
2 otherwise at any time during the period of probation, including any extensions thereof due to  
3 tolling or otherwise, upon renewal or reapplication respondent's license shall be subject to all  
4 terms and conditions of this probation not previously satisfied.

5 **10. License Surrender While on Probation/Suspension**

6 Following the effective date of this decision, should respondent cease practice due to  
7 retirement or health, or be otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation,  
8 respondent may relinquish her license, including any indicia of licensure issued by the board,  
9 along with a request to surrender the license. The board or its designee shall have the discretion  
10 whether to accept the surrender or take any other action it deems appropriate and reasonable.  
11 Upon formal acceptance of the surrender of the license, respondent will no longer be subject to  
12 the terms and conditions of probation. This surrender constitutes a record of discipline and shall  
13 become a part of the respondent's license history with the board.

14 Upon acceptance of the surrender, respondent shall relinquish her pocket and/or wall  
15 license, including any indicia of licensure not previously provided to the board within ten (10)  
16 days of notification by the board that the surrender is accepted if not already provided.  
17 Respondent may not reapply for any license from the board for three (3) years from the effective  
18 date of the surrender. Respondent shall meet all requirements applicable to the license sought as  
19 of the date the application for that license is submitted to the board, including any outstanding  
20 costs.

21 **11. Certification Prior to Resuming Work**

22 Respondent shall be suspended, and shall not work as a pharmacy technician, until she has  
23 been certified as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4202, subdivision (a)(4), has  
24 submitted proof of certification to the board, and has been notified by the board or its designee  
25 that she may begin work. Failure to achieve certification within six (6) months of the effective  
26 date shall be considered a violation of probation.

27 During suspension, respondent shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of any  
28 other board licensed premises of a wholesaler, third-party logistics provider, veterinary food-  
animal drug retailer or any other distributor of drugs which is licensed by the board, or any

1 manufacturer, or any area where dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices or controlled  
2 substances are maintained.

3 Respondent shall not do any act involving drug selection, selection of stock, manufacturing,  
4 compounding or dispensing; nor shall respondent manage, administer, or assist any licensee of the  
5 board. Respondent shall not have access to or control the ordering, distributing, manufacturing or  
6 dispensing of dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices or controlled substances.

7 During this suspension, respondent shall not engage in any activity that requires licensure  
8 as a pharmacy technician. Respondent shall not direct or control any aspect of the practice of  
9 pharmacy or of the manufacture, distribution, wholesaling, or retailing of dangerous drugs and/or  
10 dangerous devices, or controlled substances.

11 Failure to comply with any such suspension shall be considered a violation of probation.

12 **12. Practice Requirement – Extension of Probation**

13 Except during periods of suspension, respondent shall, at all times while on probation, be  
14 employed as a Pharmacy Technician in California for a minimum of 80 hours per calendar month.  
15 Any month during which this minimum is not met shall extend the period of probation by one  
16 month. During any such period of insufficient employment, respondent must nonetheless comply  
17 with all terms and conditions of probation, unless respondent receives a waiver in writing from  
18 the board or its designee.

19 If respondent does not practice as a Pharmacy Technician in California for the minimum  
20 number of hours in any calendar month, for any reason (including vacation), respondent shall  
21 notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of the conclusion of that calendar month. This  
22 notification shall include at least: the date(s), location(s), and hours of last practice; the reason(s)  
23 for the interruption or reduction in practice; and the anticipated date(s) on which respondent will  
24 resume practice at the required level. Respondent shall further notify the board in writing within  
25 ten (10) days following the next calendar month during which respondent practices as a Pharmacy  
26 Technician in California for the minimum of hours. Any failure to timely provide such  
27 notification(s) shall be considered a violation of probation.  
28

1 It is a violation of probation for respondent's probation to be extended pursuant to the  
2 provisions of this condition for a total period, counting consecutive and non-consecutive months,  
3 exceeding thirty-six (36) months. The board or its designee may post a notice of the extended  
4 probation period on its website.

5 **13. Violation of Probation**

6 If respondent has not complied with any term or condition of probation, the board shall  
7 have continuing jurisdiction over respondent, and the board shall provide notice to respondent  
8 that probation shall automatically be extended, until all terms and conditions have been satisfied  
9 or the board has taken other action as deemed appropriate to treat the failure to comply as a  
10 violation of probation, to terminate probation, and to impose the penalty that was stayed. The  
11 board or its designee may post a notice of the extended probation period on its website.

12 If respondent violates probation in any respect, the board, after giving respondent notice  
13 and an opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that  
14 was stayed. If a petition to revoke probation or an accusation is filed against respondent during  
15 probation, or the preparation of an accusation or petition to revoke probation is requested from  
16 the Office of the Attorney General, the board shall have continuing jurisdiction and the period of  
17 probation shall be automatically extended until the petition to revoke probation or accusation is  
18 heard and decided.

19 **14. Completion of Probation**

20 Upon written notice by the board or its designee indicating successful completion of  
21 probation, respondent's license will be fully restored.

22 deadline stated by this paragraph shall be considered a violation of probation.

23 **15. Drug and Alcohol Testing**

24 Respondent, at her own expense, shall participate in testing as directed by the board or its  
25 designee for the detection of alcohol, controlled substances, and dangerous drugs and/or  
26 dangerous devices. Testing protocols may include biological fluid testing (urine, blood),  
27 breathalyzer, hair follicle testing, or other testing protocols as directed by the board or its  
28 designee. All testing must be pursuant to an observed testing protocol, unless respondent is  
informed otherwise in writing by the board or its designee. Respondent may be required to

1 participate in testing for the entire probation period and frequency of testing will be determined  
2 by the board or its designee.

3 By no later than thirty (30) days after the effective date of this decision, respondent shall  
4 have completed all of the following tasks: enrolled and registered with an approved drug and  
5 alcohol testing vendor; provided that vendor with any documentation, and any information  
6 necessary for payment by respondent; commenced testing protocols, including all required  
7 contacts with the testing vendor to determine testing date(s); and begun testing. At all times,  
8 respondent shall fully cooperate with the testing vendor, and with the board or its designee, with  
9 regard to enrollment, registration, and payment for, and compliance with, testing. Any failure to  
10 cooperate timely shall be considered a violation of probation.

11 Respondent may be required to test on any day, including weekends and holidays.  
12 Respondent is required to make daily contact with the testing vendor to determine if a test is  
13 required, and if a test is required must submit to testing on the same day.

14 Prior to any vacation or other period of absence from the area where the approved testing  
15 vendor provides services, respondent shall seek and receive approval from the board or its  
16 designee to use an alternate testing vendor to ensure testing can occur. Upon approval,  
17 respondent shall enroll and register with the approved alternate drug testing vendor, provide to  
18 that alternate vendor any documentation required by the vendor, including any necessary payment  
19 by respondent. During the period of absence of the area, respondent shall commence testing  
20 protocols with the alternate vendor, including required daily contacts with the testing vendor to  
21 determine if testing is required, and required testing. Any failure to timely seek or receive  
22 approval from the board or its designee, or to timely enroll and register with, timely commence  
23 testing protocols with, or timely undergo testing with, the alternate testing vendor, shall be  
24 considered a violation of probation.

25 Upon detection of an illicit drug, controlled substance or dangerous drug, the board or its  
26 designee may require respondent to timely provide documentation from a licensed practitioner  
27 authorized to prescribe the detected substance demonstrating that the substance was administered  
28

1 or ingested pursuant to a legitimate prescription issued as a necessary part of treatment. All such  
2 documentation shall be provided by respondent within ten (10) days of being requested.

3 Any of the following shall be considered a violation of probation and shall result in  
4 respondent being immediately suspended from practice as a Pharmacy Technician until notified  
5 by the board in writing that she may resume practice: failure to timely complete all of the steps  
6 required for enrollment/registration with the drug testing vendor, including making arrangements  
7 for payment; failure to timely commence drug testing protocols; failure to contact the drug testing  
8 vendor as required to determine testing date(s); failure to test as required; failure to timely supply  
9 documentation demonstrating that a detected substance was taken pursuant to a legitimate  
10 prescription issued as a necessary part of treatment; and/or detection through testing of alcohol, or  
11 of an illicit drug, or of a controlled substance or dangerous drug absent documentation that the  
12 detected substance was taken pursuant to a legitimate prescription and a necessary treatment. In  
13 the event of a suspension ordered after detection through testing of alcohol, an illicit drug, or of a  
14 controlled substance or dangerous drug absent documentation that the detected substance was  
15 taken pursuant to a legitimate prescription and a necessary treatment, the board or its designee  
16 shall inform respondent of the suspension and inform her to immediately leave work, and shall  
17 notify respondent's employer(s) and work site monitor(s) of the suspension.

18 During any such suspension, respondent shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of  
19 the licensed premises of a wholesaler, third-party-logistics provider, veterinary food-animal drug  
20 retailer, or any other distributor of drugs which is licensed by the board, or any manufacturer, or  
21 any area where dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices or controlled substances are  
22 maintained. Respondent shall not practice pharmacy nor do any act involving drug selection,  
23 selection of stock, manufacturing, compounding, dispensing or patient consultation; nor shall  
24 respondent manage, administer, or be a consultant to any licensee of the board, or have access to  
25 or control the ordering, distributing, manufacturing or dispensing of dangerous drugs and/or  
26 dangerous devices and controlled substances.

27 During any such suspension, respondent shall not engage in any activity that requires the  
28 professional judgment of and/or licensure as a Pharmacy Technician. Respondent shall not direct

1 or control any aspect of the practice of pharmacy, or of the manufacturing, distributing,  
2 wholesaling, or retailing of dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices.

3 Failure to comply with any such suspension shall be considered a violation of probation.  
4 Failure to comply with any requirement or deadline stated by this term shall be considered a  
5 violation of probation.

6 **16. Notification of Departure**

7 Prior to leaving the probationary geographic area designated by the board or its designee for  
8 a period greater than twenty-four (24) hours, respondent shall notify the board verbally and in  
9 writing of the dates of departure and return. Failure to comply with this provision shall be  
10 considered a violation of probation.

11 **17. Abstain from Drugs and Alcohol**

12 Respondent shall completely abstain from the possession or use of alcohol, controlled  
13 substances, illicit drugs, dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices, or their associated  
14 paraphernalia, except when possessed or used pursuant to a legitimate prescription issued as a  
15 necessary part of treatment. Respondent shall ensure that she is not in the same physical location  
16 as individuals who are using illicit substances even if respondent is not personally ingesting the  
17 drugs. Any possession or use of alcohol, dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices or controlled  
18 substances, or their associated paraphernalia for which a legitimate prescription has not been  
19 issued as a necessary part of treatment, or any physical proximity to persons using illicit  
20 substances, shall be considered a violation of probation.

21 **18. Prescription Coordination and Monitoring of Prescription Use**

22 Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, respondent shall submit to the  
23 board, for its prior approval, the name and qualifications of a single physician, nurse practitioner,  
24 physician assistant, or psychiatrist of respondent's choice, who shall be aware of the respondent's  
25 history with the use of alcohol, illicit drugs, controlled substances, and/or dangerous drugs, and/or  
26 of mental illness, and/or of gambling addiction and who will coordinate and monitor any  
27 prescriptions for respondent for dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices, controlled substances  
28 or mood-altering drugs. The approved practitioner shall be provided with a copy of the board's  
Accusation and decision. A record of this notification must be provided to the board or its

1 designee upon request. Respondent shall sign a release authorizing the practitioner to  
2 communicate with the board or its designee about respondent's treatment(s). The coordinating  
3 physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or psychiatrist shall report to the board on a  
4 quarterly basis for the duration of probation regarding respondent's compliance with this  
5 condition. If any substances considered addictive have been prescribed, the report shall identify a  
6 program for the time limited use of any such substances. The board or its designee may require  
7 that the single coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant or psychiatrist be a  
8 specialist in addictive medicine, or consult a specialist in addictive medicine. Should respondent,  
9 for any reason, cease supervision by the approved practitioner, respondent shall notify the board  
10 or its designee immediately and, within thirty (30) days of ceasing supervision, submit the name  
11 of a replacement physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or psychiatrist of respondent's  
12 choice to the board or its designee for its prior approval. Failure to timely submit the selected  
13 practitioner or replacement practitioner to the board or its designee for approval, or to ensure the  
14 required quarterly reporting thereby, shall be considered a violation of probation.

15       If at any time an approved practitioner determines that respondent is unable to practice  
16 safely or independently as a Pharmacy Technician, the practitioner shall notify the board or its  
17 designee immediately by telephone and follow up by written letter within three (3) working days.  
18 Upon notification from the board or its designee of this determination, respondent shall be  
19 automatically suspended and shall not resume practice as a Pharmacy Technician until notified by  
20 the board or its designee that practice may be resumed.

21       During any suspension, respondent shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of the  
22 licensed premises of a wholesaler, third-party logistics provider, veterinary food-animal drug  
23 retailer, or any other distributor of drugs which is licensed by the board, or any manufacturer, or  
24 any area where dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices or controlled substances are  
25 maintained. Respondent shall not practice pharmacy nor do any act involving drug selection,  
26 selection of stock, manufacturing, compounding, dispensing or patient consultation; nor shall  
27 respondent manage, administer, or be a consultant to any licensee of the board, or have access to  
28 or control the ordering, distributing, manufacturing or dispensing of dangerous drugs and/or

1 dangerous devices and controlled substances. Respondent shall not resume practice until notified  
2 by the board.

3 During any suspension, respondent shall not engage in any activity that requires the  
4 professional judgment and/or licensure as a Pharmacy Technician. Respondent shall not direct or  
5 control any aspect of the practice of pharmacy or of the manufacturing, distributing, wholesaling,  
6 or retailing of dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices or controlled substances.

7 Failure to comply with any requirement or deadline stated by this term shall be considered a  
8 violation of probation.

9 **19. Attend Substance Abuse Recovery Relapse Prevention and Support Groups**

10 Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, respondent shall begin regular  
11 attendance at a recognized and established substance abuse recovery support group in California  
12 (e.g., Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, etc.) which has been approved by the board  
13 or its designee. Respondent must attend the number of group meetings per week or month  
14 directed by the board or its designee, which shall typically be at least one per week. Respondent  
15 shall continue regular attendance and submit signed and dated documentation confirming  
16 attendance with each quarterly report for the duration of probation. Failure to attend or submit  
17 documentation thereof shall be considered a violation of probation.

18 Where respondent is enrolled in the PRP, participation as required in a recovery group  
19 meeting approved by the PRP shall be sufficient for satisfaction of this requirement. Any  
20 deviation from participation requirements for the PRP-approved group shall be considered a  
21 violation of probation.

22 **20. No Ownership or Management of Licensed Premises**

23 Respondent shall not own, have any legal or beneficial interest in, nor serve as a manager,  
24 administrator, member, officer, director, trustee, associate, or partner of any business, firm,  
25 partnership, or corporation currently or hereinafter licensed by the board. Respondent shall sell  
26 or transfer any legal or beneficial interest in any entity licensed by the board within ninety (90)  
27 days following the effective date of this decision and shall immediately thereafter provide written  
28 proof thereof to the board. Failure to timely divest any legal or beneficial interest(s) or provide  
documentation thereof shall be considered a violation of probation.

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**21. Criminal Probation/Parole Reports**

Within ten (10) days of the effective date of this decision, or within ten (10) days of the issuance or assignment/replacement of same, whichever is earlier, respondent shall provide the board or its designee in writing: a copy of the conditions of any criminal probation/parole applicable to respondent; and the name and contact information of any probation, parole or similar supervisory officer assigned to respondent. Respondent shall provide a copy of all criminal probation/parole reports to the board within ten (10) days after such report is issued. Failure to timely make any of the submissions required hereby shall be considered a violation of probation.

**ACCEPTANCE**

I have carefully read the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Pharmacy Technician License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
RENEE MARY VELA  
*Respondent*

**ENDORSEMENT**

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy.



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DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted,  
  
ROB BONTA  
Attorney General of California  
SHAWN P. COOK  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

CHRISTINA THOMAS  
Deputy Attorney General  
*Attorneys for Complainant*


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DATED: 3/10/25

Respectfully submitted,

ROB BONTA  
Attorney General of California  
SHAWN P. COOK  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

  
CHRISTINA THOMAS  
Deputy Attorney General  
*Attorneys for Complainant*

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**Exhibit A**

**Accusation No. 7781**

1 ROB BONTA  
Attorney General of California  
2 NANCY A. KAISER  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General  
3 SHAWN P. COOK  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General  
4 State Bar No. 117851  
300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702  
5 Los Angeles, CA 90013  
Telephone: (213) 269-6291  
6 Facsimile: (916) 731-2126  
*Attorneys for Complainant*  
7

8 **BEFORE THE**  
9 **BOARD OF PHARMACY**  
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 7781

13 **RENEE MARY VELA**  
16134 Wedgeworth Dr.  
14 Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

**ACCUSATION**

15 **Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH**  
16 **165087**

Respondent.

17  
18 **PARTIES**

19 1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity  
20 as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.

21 2. On or about February 7, 2018, the Board of Pharmacy (Board) issued Pharmacy  
22 Technician License Number TCH 165087 to Renee Mary Vela (Respondent). The Pharmacy  
23 Technician License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein  
24 and will expire on December 31, 2025, unless renewed.

25 **JURISDICTION**

26 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following  
27 laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise  
28 indicated.



1 (l) The conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications,  
2 functions, and duties of a licensee under this chapter. The record of conviction of a  
3 violation of Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 801) of Title 21 of the United  
4 States Code regulating controlled substances or of a violation of the statutes of this  
5 state regulating controlled substances or dangerous drugs shall be conclusive  
6 evidence of unprofessional conduct. In all other cases, the record of conviction shall  
7 be conclusive evidence only of the fact that the conviction occurred. The board may  
8 inquire into the circumstances surrounding the commission of the crime, in order to  
9 fix the degree of discipline or, in the case of a conviction not involving controlled  
10 substances or dangerous drugs, to determine if the conviction is of an offense  
11 substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a licensee under this  
12 chapter. A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo  
13 contendere is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this provision. The  
14 board may take action when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of  
15 conviction has been affirmed on appeal or when an order granting probation is made  
16 suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under  
17 Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing the person to withdraw their plea of guilty  
18 and to enter a plea of not guilty, or setting aside the verdict of guilty, or dismissing  
19 the accusation, information, or indictment.

9. Section 4307 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

12 (a) Any person who has been denied a license or whose license has been revoked or is  
13 under suspension, or who has failed to renew his or her license while it was under  
14 suspension, or who has been a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director,  
15 associate, partner, or any other person with management or control of any partnership,  
16 corporation, trust, firm, or association whose application for a license has been denied or  
17 revoked, is under suspension or has been placed on probation, and while acting as the  
18 manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, partner, or any other  
19 person with management or control had knowledge of or knowingly participated in any  
20 conduct for which the license was denied, revoked, suspended, or placed on probation, shall  
21 be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director,  
22 associate, partner, or in any other position with management or control of a licensee as  
23 follows:

20 (1) Where a probationary license is issued or where an existing license is placed on  
21 probation, this prohibition shall remain in effect for a period not to exceed five years.

22 (2) Where the license is denied or revoked, the prohibition shall continue until the  
23 license is issued or reinstated.

### **REGULATORY PROVISIONS**

24 10. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1770, states, in pertinent part:

25 (a) For the purpose of denial, suspension, or revocation of a personal or facility  
26 license pursuant to Section 141 or Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 475) of the  
27 Business and Professions Code, a crime, professional misconduct, or act shall be  
28 considered substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of the  
practice, profession, or occupation that may be performed under the license type  
sought or held if to a substantial degree it evidences present or potential unfitness of

1 an applicant or licensee to perform the functions authorized by the license in a  
2 manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare.

3 **COST RECOVERY**

4 11. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the  
5 administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of  
6 the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and  
7 enforcement of the case, with failure of the licentiate to comply subjecting the license to not being  
8 renewed or reinstated. If a case settles, recovery of investigation and enforcement costs may be  
9 included in a stipulated settlement.

10 **DANGEROUS DRUGS**

11 12. “Keppra,” is the brand name for levetiracetam, it is an antiseizure (antiepileptic) drug,  
12 and categorized as a dangerous drug pursuant to Code section 4022.

13 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

14 **(October 31, 2023 Criminal Conviction – Driving While Having 0.08% or More, of Alcohol  
15 by Weight, in her Blood on July 23, 2023)**

16 13. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code sections 490 and 4301,  
17 subdivision (l), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1770,  
18 subdivision (c)(5), in that Respondent was convicted of a crime substantially related to the  
19 qualifications, functions, and duties of pharmacy technician. Specifically, on or about October 31,  
20 2023, Respondent was convicted of one (1) misdemeanor count for violating Vehicle Code  
21 section 23152, subdivision (b) (driving while having a 0.08% or more, of alcohol by weight, in  
22 her blood) with a special enhancement, pursuant to Vehicle Code section 23578, subdivision  
23 (b)(2) (BAC of 0.20% or more), in the criminal proceeding titled: *The People of the State of  
24 California v. Renee Mary Vela* (Super. Ct. Los Angeles County, 2023, No. 3AM01480). The  
25 court placed Respondent on 36 months of probation, ordered her to pay fines and restitution, with  
26 terms and conditions.

27 14. The circumstances surrounding the conviction are that on or about July 23, 2023, at  
28 approximately 8:30 p.m., during an investigation of a non-injury traffic collision, an officer

1 observed Respondent attempting to flee the scene of the accident, and used his patrol vehicle's  
2 public address system and instructed Respondent to pull over. While speaking to Respondent, an  
3 officer detected a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage emitting from her breath. Respondent was  
4 observed to have watery bloodshot red eyes, slurred speech, an unsteady gait, and poor balance.  
5 Respondent admitted to drinking four (4) Captain and Coke drinks prior to driving. Also,  
6 Respondent stated that she is "partially epileptic" and taking the medication Keppra twice a day.  
7 Respondent failed to perform the Standard Field Sobriety Tests (S.F.S.T.'s), as demonstrated and  
8 explained by the officer. During the booking procedure, Respondent submitted to a breath test  
9 that resulted in a breath-alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.22% at 2139 hours on the first reading  
10 and 0.21% at 2139 hours on the second reading.

### 11 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

#### 12 **(Dangerous Use of Alcoholic Beverages and/or a Dangerous Drug)**

13 15. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (h),  
14 in that Respondent used alcoholic beverages and/or a dangerous drug to the extent or in a manner  
15 as to be dangerous or injurious to herself, another person, or to the public. Complainant refers to,  
16 and by this reference incorporates, the allegations above in paragraphs 13 and 14, inclusive, as  
17 though set forth fully.

### 18 **THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

#### 19 **(Knowingly Made or Signed Any Certificate or Other Document That Falsely Represents** 20 **the Existence or Nonexistence of a State of Facts)**

21 16. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (g),  
22 in that Respondent knowingly made or signed any certificate or other document that falsely  
23 represents the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts, by failing to disclose her criminal  
24 conviction. Specifically, on November 16, 2023, Respondent signed under penalty of perjury  
25 under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing was true and correct on her pharmacy  
26 technician renewal application. Respondent marked, "No," to the conviction question that asked,  
27 "Since you last renewal, have you had any disciplinary action against any license issued by a  
28 government agency or have you been convicted as defined in Section 490 of the Business and

1 Professions Code, or any violation of the law in this or any other state, the United States, or other  
2 country.” Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations above in  
3 paragraphs 13 and 14, inclusive, as though set forth fully.

4 **OTHER MATTERS**

5 17. Pursuant to section 4307 of the Code, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy  
6 Technician License Number TCH 165087, issued to Renee Mary Vela, then Renee Mary Vela  
7 shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director,  
8 associate, partner, or any other person with management or control of a licensee for five years if  
9 Pharmacy Technician License Number TCH 165087 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy  
10 Technician License Number TCH 165087 is reinstated if it is revoked.

11 **PRAYER**

12 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,  
13 and that following the hearing, the Board of Pharmacy issue a decision:

14 1. Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Technician License Number TCH 165087, issued  
15 to Renee Mary Vela;

16 2. Ordering Renee Mary Vela to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of the  
17 investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section  
18 125.3; and, if placed on probation, the costs of probation monitoring;

19 3. Prohibiting Renee Mary Vela from serving as a manager, administrator, owner,  
20 member, officer, director, associate, partner, or any other person with management or control of a  
21 licensee for five years if Pharmacy Technician License Number TCH 165087 is placed on  
22 probation or until Pharmacy Technician License Number TCH 165087 is reinstated if it is  
23 revoked; and

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4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: 08/16/2024

Sodergren,  
Anne@DCA

Digitally signed by  
Sodergren, Anne@DCA  
Date: 2024.08.16 11:00:38  
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ANNE SODERGREN  
Executive Officer  
Board of Pharmacy  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
State of California  
*Complainant*

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